

INTERPRETERS

QUALIFICATIONS

- In VA, contact the Virginia Dept for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing to get a listing of qualified interpreters, (800) 552 - 7917
- State-Level Qualifications: VQAS (Virginia Quality Assurance Screening)
 - Levels I – IV - Receiving a Level I certification indicates that when they were tested, the person was able to understand and/or communicate 50 – 64% correctly;
 - Level II means that they understood and/or communicated 65 – 79%% correctly;
 - Level III, 80 – 94% correctly;
 - Level IV, 95 – 100% of the information was communicated correctly
- National Certification includes: Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf (RID) and National Association of the Deaf (NAD) Certification
- Interpreters' Code of Ethics
 - Confidentiality
 - Render message faithfully
 - Shall not counsel or interject opinion
 - Use discretion in accepting assignments
 - Request just compensation
 - Function in manner appropriate for situation
 - Strive to develop professionally
 - Strive to maintain high professional standards

WHEN YOU ARE USING AN INTERPRETER

- Check lighting and positioning
- Include breaks
- Speak to the person, not to the interpreter
- Look at the person you are speaking with, not at the interpreter
- Everything you say will be interpreted
- Talk at a normal pace
- Slow pace if reading
- Present visual material, allow time, then speak
- Don't ask interpreter for opinion
- Don't ask interpreter to perform other functions